



**Kootenai National Forest**  
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# News Release

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## Kootenai National Forest Fire Update for August 22

**LIBBY, Mont. August 22, 2015 4:00 p.m.** – Fire activity across the Kootenai National Forest was subdued last night, with cooler temperatures and rain in some areas inhibiting fire growth. There were three new fires detected yesterday evening, two detected this morning and two detected this afternoon, including the Tobacco View Fire and the Sterling Fire on the Rexford/Fortine Ranger District, the Fritz Mountain Fire and the South Portal Fire on state protection land, the Caribou Creek Fire on the Troy Ranger District, and the Berray 3 Fire and Pine Ridge Fire in the Cabinet Mountains Wilderness. All seven fires have been the focus of aggressive initial attack. Visibility has improved significantly, making it easier for air support to detect fires and assist with suppression.

Aside from the three fire complexes on the forest, all other fires have been contained and are either in the mop-up stage or being monitored. The one exception is the Tepee Fire on the Troy Ranger District, in the Yaak. This fire is still active and crews continue to make progress constructing fire line with heavy equipment; air support is also assisting. Active fires on the forest are included in the three fire complexes being managed by three separate Type II Teams. The Northeast Kootenai Complex, managed by Pearson's Type II Team, includes the Marston, Sunday, and Barnaby Fires. None of these fires experienced significant growth through the night, with Marston remaining at 3,200 acres (5% contained), Barnaby at 40 acres (0% contained) and Sunday at 60 acres (70% contained).

The Clark Fork Complex, managed by Hutton's Type II Team, includes fires on the Idaho Panhandle National Forest as well. On the Kootenai, the team is managing the Sawtooth Fire (2,129 acres), Hamilton Fire (1,169 acres), Napoleon 1 Fire (2,217 acres), Napoleon 3 Fire (1,726 acres), Star Gulch Fire (544 acres), and Government Fire (252 acres). None of these fires experienced significant growth during the night. Effort continues to be concentrated on constructing and improving fire line, as well as securing and protecting structures. The local Type III Team continues to support the efforts of Hutton's Type II Team in the Bull River area.

The Goat Rock Complex includes fires burning in or near the Cabinet Mountains Wilderness (Klatawa, Berray 1 and 2, Poplar Point, Chippewa and Vimy). The Rocky Mountain Red Type II Team will assume management of these fires tomorrow. Air support is currently assisting with suppression.

Updates will be released as more information becomes available.

To register for the Lincoln County Emergency Alert system, visit:

<http://lincolncountymt.us/>

**Kootenai Interagency Dispatch Website**

<http://gacc.nifc.gov/nrcc/dc/mtkdc/INDEX.HTM>

**InciWeb – Wildfire Information**

<http://inciweb.nwcg.gov/state/27/>

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